Performance of News Readers of Doordarshan

4866. SHRI SHARAVAN KUMAR PATEL: *Will the Minister of* INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING *be pleased to state:*

(a) whether the performance of news-readers of Doordarshan has been reviewed;

(b) if so, whether any reshuffle in their gradation of reallocation of time-slots or removal had been effected;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the newsreaders have made representations against the move; and

(e) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No general reshuffle of News Readers or reallocation of time-slots or removal has been effected as a result of the review.

(d) and (e). Some News Readers have submitted a representation based on the reports in a Section of the Press.

Doordarshan is of the view that more training is necessary to further improve the performance of the news presenters.

[*Translation*]

Policy regarding allotment of Land to workers of Co-operative Societies

4867. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government for providing land of the Union Government to workers of Co-operative Societies in various States for preparing salt; and

(b) whether this land is allotted on fixed rates or on the basis of tenders called therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). Salt Department lands are allotted, inter-alia, to the Co-operative Societies in the salt manufacturing States for manufacture of salt for a particular period on lease basis on the basis of tenders.

[*English*]

TV Transmitter at Jabalpur

4868. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target set up by the Government for commissioning of 10 KW TV Transmitter in Jabalpur;

(b) whether the target has been achieved; if not, how far it is behind the schedule and the reasons thereof; and

(c) the date by which the tower of the Transmitter is likely to be completed and the transmission is likely to start?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The high power (10KW) TV transmitter at Jabalpur was initially planned to be commissioned during 1991-92.

(b) and (c). There has been some delay in construction of the tower as excavation of hard rock bottom at the tower site, by blasting, was not allowed by the local authorities